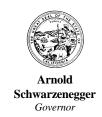


California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

Robert Schneider, Chair



Sacramento Main Office

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7 July 2006

John Chase Sierra Knolls Winery 9500 Oak Ave Orangevale, CA 95662

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY OF RESOLUTION NO. R5-2003-0106 SIERRA KNOLLS VINEYARD AND WINERY, NEVADA COUNTY

Regional Water Board staff has reviewed your 21June 2006 Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) for coverage under Regional Board Resolution No. R5-2003-0106, *Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Food Processors, Including Wineries, Within the Central Valley Region.* The RWD included a Notice of Non-Applicability for compliance with the storm water General Permit and an \$872 filing fee. Our review finds the RWD to be complete.

Resolution No. R5-2003-0106 (a copy of which is enclosed) is a conditional waiver of waste discharge requirements for small food processors, including wineries. Based on the information you have submitted, the discharge as described in the RWD satisfies the general and specific conditions of Resolution No. R5-2003-0106 for the current amount of grapes crushed and wastewater produced.

Discharge Description

John and Linda Chase, and Steve and Brenda Taylor (Discharger) own and operate a small winery at 19635 Kingswood Court in Grass Valley, Nevada County (APN 11-570-04-000). The RWD states that the winery crushes approximately 12 tons of grapes generating approximately 2,000 gallons of wine annually and producing up to 8,000 gallons of wastewater. The winery consists of a winery building, a covered concrete crush pad, and a barrel cleaning station. The winery is built into a hillside with wine production downstairs and wine storage upstairs. The barrel cleaning station is located above the crush pad. Barrels are cleaned using a steam-cleaning unit. Both the barrel cleaning station and the crush pads have drains that are connected to a four-inch pipe and a 450-gallon plastic storage tank. The wastewater is emptied into a sprayer unit and applied to six acres of unused land consisting of trees and local grasses/weeds.

The Discharger has estimated that approximately 7200 pounds of solids (grape stems, seeds, and skins) will be evenly applied to 1.5 acres of vineyard and six acres of land and disked into the soil.

California Environmental Protection Agency



Conditional Waiver

Based on the information submitted in the RWD and subsequent information provided by the Discharger, the discharge as described above satisfies the general and specific conditions of Resolution No. R5-2003-0106 for the projected volume of wastewater and process solids produced. Therefore, this letter serves as formal notice that Resolution No. R5-2003-0106 is applicable and waste discharge requirements for this facility are waived.

Enclosed is a copy of Resolution No. R5-2003-0106 and the associated monitoring and reporting program. As described therein, an annual monitoring report that contains the information described in Items No. 1, 2 and 5 of the monitoring and reporting program must be submitted by **1 February** of each year.

If the discharge violates the terms or conditions of the waiver, the Regional Water Board may take enforcement action, including assessment of administrative civil liability. If the volume of wastewater increases beyond 8,000 gallons per year, or the method of winery wastewater and solids disposal change from those described in the RWD, you must submit a new RWD. Please note that the waiver will expire on 11 July 2008, at which time you must submit a new RWD with a filing fee to renew the waiver, or cease the discharge.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to call Guy Childs at (916) 464-4648.

- Original Signed by Jack E. Del Conte/for -

PAMELA C. CREEDON Executive Officer

Enc: General Order No. R5-2003-0106

cc w/o enc: Nevada County Environmental Health Department, Nevada City